



**OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL**  
Department of Homeland Security

Washington, DC 20528 / [www.oig.dhs.gov](http://www.oig.dhs.gov)

November 7, 2019

Taylor Amarel Scott  
MuckRock News  
DEPT MR 71957  
411A Highland Ave  
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

Subject:     OIG Freedom of Information Act Request No. 2019-IGFO-00151  
              Department of Homeland Security Privacy Office FOIA  
              Request No. 2019-HQFO-00664  
              Final Response

Dear Mr. Scott:

This responds to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the DHS Privacy Office (PRIV), dated April 24, 2019, seeking the last 200 pages of emails sent to, from or copied to [hsdn@oig.dhs.gov](mailto:hsdn@oig.dhs.gov). PRIV referred your request to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office of Inspector General (OIG) for processing and direct response to you. DHS-OIG received that referral on April 30, 2019.

DHS-OIG conducts independent investigations, audits, inspections, and special reviews of DHS personnel, programs, and operations to detect and deter waste, fraud, and abuse, and to promote integrity, economy, and efficiency within DHS. In response to your request, a search of the DHS-OIG Office of IT Services was conducted. As a result of that search it was determined that the information contained in the documents are DHS-HQ equity and are therefore, appropriate for referral back to PRIV for a final release determination.

### **Appeal**

You have the right to appeal this response.<sup>1</sup> Your appeal must be in writing and received within 90 days of the date of this response. Please address any appeal to:

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<sup>1</sup> For your information, Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIA. 5 U.S.C. 552(c) (2006 & Supp. IV 2010). This response is limited to those records that are subject to the requirements of the FOIA. This is a standard notification that is given to all our

FOIA/PA Appeals Unit  
DHS-OIG Office of Counsel  
Stop 0305  
245 Murray Lane, SW  
Washington, DC 20528-0305

Both the envelope and letter of appeal must be clearly marked, "Freedom of Information Act Appeal." Your appeal letter must also clearly identify the DHS-OIG's response. Additional information on submitting an appeal is set forth in the DHS regulations at 6 C.F.R. § 5.8.

### **Assistance and Dispute Resolution Services**

Should you need assistance with your request, you may contact DHS-OIG's FOIA Public Liaison. You may also seek dispute resolution services from our FOIA Public Liaison. You may contact DHS-OIG's FOIA Public Liaison in any of the following ways:

FOIA Public Liaison  
DHS-OIG Counsel  
STOP 0305  
245 Murray Lane, SW  
Washington, DC 20528-0305  
Phone: 202-981-6100  
Fax: 202-245-5217  
E-mail: [foia.oig@oig.dhs.gov](mailto:foia.oig@oig.dhs.gov)

Additionally, the 2007 FOIA amendments created the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) to offer mediation services to resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies as a non-exclusive alternative to litigation. Using OGIS services does not affect your right to pursue litigation. You may contact OGIS in any of the following ways:

Office of Government Information Services  
National Archives and Records Administration  
8601 Adelphi Road - OGIS  
College Park, MD 20740-6001  
E-mail: [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov)  
Web: <https://ogis.archives.gov>

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requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist.

Telephone: 202-741-5770  
Fax: 202-741-5769  
Toll-free: 1-877-684-6448

If you have any questions about this response, please contact Steven Phelps, FOIA/PA Disclosure Specialist, at 202-981-6338.

Sincerely,

*Steven G. Phelps*

Steven G. Phelps  
FOIA/PA Disclosure Specialist